

CITY OF HOT SPRINGS ADOPT-A-PARK FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Q: What is the Adopt-a-Park program?

Adopt-a-park is a program run by the City of Hot Springs that is aimed at significantly improving the environmental and aesthetic quality of our parks and greenways through generating a strong sense of ownership and responsibility within them. Through the Adopt-a-Park program businesses, park users, and various community groups can take an active role in beautifying our community and supporting the City of Hot Springs' park system.

Q: Who can be involved?

Anyone from an individual to businesses, to community minded organizations can become involved in the Adopt-a-Park program. Park users, community groups, and businesses are all encouraged to do what they can to promote safe, beautiful places for residents and visitors of the area to enjoy.

Q: I pay taxes, shouldn't that be enough to care for the City's parks?

That is a great question and one we have heard before. While sales and property taxes do fund our Parks Department, they also fund all of the other departments of the City. That said, our Parks Department is relatively lean, with only one full time worker and one part-time worker employed year-round. We do our best working with other departments to ensure the parks and greenspaces in Hot Springs are well-maintained and are an asset to our community. However, we feel with the Adopt-A-Park program, citizens can help the City in further beautifying our parks and greenspaces, enhancing our community while also allowing volunteers to have a sense of greater ownership and pride in the City's public spaces.

Q: What do members of the Adopt a Park program do?

Volunteers are encouraged to work with City Recreation employees to do various projects, which may include:

- Litter Pickup
- Pickup of twigs and light branches
- Leaf Raking
- Painting
- Graffiti Removal
- Spreading of mulch, gravel, playground rock
- Sweeping of courts or paved trails
- Removal of exotic invasive plants
- Planting and maintaining low to no maintenance decorative plants
- Reporting of safety hazards, illegal dumping, injured or dead animals, storm damage, and other issues

Q: What commitment do volunteers need to make?

Adopt-a-Park volunteers are asked to commit to a minimum of one year of service to their adopted park. We also ask that volunteers perform cleanups or other tasks in their adopted park at least once per month.

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Q: How does City Personnel work with volunteers?

City Parks and Streets employees along with the City Administrator will work with volunteers to approve projects in parks adopted. The Parks and/or Streets Department will supply park volunteers with materials needed to accomplish the project.

Q: What are the benefits of involvement?

Being involved in the Adopt-A-Park program is a great way to take an active role in beautifying our community. Being involved in the Adopt-A-Park program promotes positive social interaction, bonding, and healthy activity. In addition to achieving a strong sense of personal gratification through your participation, Adopt-A-Park recognition signs will be permanently displayed with the volunteer/volunteer group's name and/or logo to recognize their efforts.

Q: How do I sign up?

1. Make the commitment to adopt a City of Hot Springs park
2. Complete the **Adopt-A-Park Enrollment Form** and return it to the City of Hot Springs City Administrator for approval
3. Sign the park adoption **Commitment Form** and submit to the City of Hot Springs City Administrator
4. Get started in your park!